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2 **IN THE CLAIMS**

3 A. Please cancel Claims 4 and 16.

4 B. Please amend the claims as follows in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1).

5 A marked up version of the rewritten claims is attached hereto as Exhibit "B" in  
6 accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii).  
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8 1. (Amended) In a length of rigid material with first and second unjoined edges, a  
9 reinforcing ridge comprising:

- A2 10 (a) a short extension connected to said first unjoined edge;  
11 (b) a long extension connected to said second unjoined edge;  
12 (c) a connection locking slot in said long extension conformed to just receive and  
13 retain said short section when said unjoined edges are brought together; and  
14 (d) wherein said rigid material forms a rectangle with said reinforcing ridge in one  
15 side and at least one reinforcing rib in a side facing said reinforcing ridge.

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17 2. (Amended) The invention of Claim 1 further comprising two reinforcing ribs.

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19/2 13. (Amended) In a length of rigid material with first and second unjoined edges, a method  
20 of joining said edges and forming a reinforcing ridge comprising the steps of:

- A4 21 (a) forming a short extension in said first unjoined edge;  
22 (b) forming a long extension in said second unjoined edge;

1 (c) bringing said first and second unjoined edges together and bending said long  
2 extension over said short extension and forming a connection locking slot so that  
3 said first and second unjoined edges are joined together and form said  
4 reinforcing ridge;

5 (d) forming said rigid material into a rectangular shape with said reinforcing ridge  
6 in one side; and

7 (e) forming at least one reinforcing rib in a side facing said reinforcing ridge.

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9 ~~17.~~ <sup>15</sup> (Amended) The method of Claim ~~13~~ <sup>12</sup> further comprising the step of forming two  
10 reinforcing ribs in the side facing said reinforcing ridge.

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12 ~~18.~~ <sup>16</sup> (Amended) The method of Claim ~~13~~ <sup>12</sup> further comprising the step of forming at least one  
13 strength indent in a side adjacent to said reinforcing ridge.

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15 REMARKS

16 STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

17 Claims 4 and 16 have been canceled.

18 Claims 1, 5, 13, 17, and 18 have been amended.

19 Claims 1-3, 5-15, and 17-20 are pending in the case.

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21 35 U.S.C. §102 OBJECTIONS